8.—WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DEVONIAN CORALS IN THE WADE COLLECTION.

BY

DOROTHY HILL, M.Sc., Ph.D.
Department of Geology, University of Queensland.

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In this paper four further species from the Rough Range Series (Upper Givetian or Lower Frasnian) of the Kimberley District of Western Australia are described, and reviews are given of the Families Syringaxonidae and Metriophyllidae.

These corals were collected by Dr. A. Wade (1938, p. 96), and are now in the University of Western Australia. The table shows the localities; the species illustrated herein are listed in heavy type, and other entries give new localities for species previously described (Hill, 1936). The fauna indicates either an Upper Givetian or a Lower Frasnian horizon, and the presence of Alveolites with Thamnopora and the apparent absence of Favosites and Heliolites make the higher horizon seem more likely.

					A408	A581	B92	B94
Alveolites suborbicularis Lam								X
Barrandeophyllum rubrum sp. n	ov.				X	X		
Disphyllum virgatum (Hinde)*				****				X
D. depressum (Hinde)				****			X	
Metriophyllum sp		200.00	****	****	X			
Prismatophyllum brevilamellatum	Hill		****					
Thamnopora cf. dubia (de Blair	1)	****	****	****			X	

Table of Occurrences.

A408. South-eastern entrance of Mountain Home Spring Valley, Rough Range, Kimberley District.

A581. Napier Range, Kimberley District.

B92. Trigonometrical Station J, Rough Range, Kimberley District.

B94. 10 chains East of Trigonometrical Station K, Rough Range, Kimberley District.

B92 and B94 are in the massive grey limestones of the Rough Range, A408 and A581 are in red limestone below the massive grey and are thought by Dr. Wade to be near the base of the Rough Range Series.

RUGOSE CORALS.

Family SYRINGAXONIDAE.

Type Genus: SYRINGAXON Lindström, 1882, p. 20.

Diagnosis: Simple Rugose corals with the axial ends of the major septa united at the tabulate aulos, with inclined tabellae between the aulos and the outer wall; with contratingent minor septa and without dissepiments.

Range: Silurian to Permian.

Remarks: The genera here included in the family are (1) the Silurian Syringaxon of Europe, recently studied by Butler (1935), (2) the Silurian Laccophyllum Simpson of America; (3) the Silurian and Devonian Alleynia

^{*}Mlle. Le Maitre (1937, p. 107) has described this species from the Givetian of France, and also referred to it a form from the Upper Devonian of India, called Cyathophyllum (Thamnophyllum sp) by Cowper Reed.

(Nicholsonia) Poeta (1902, p. 184) of Bohemia, these three genera probably being synonyms, as all are distinguished by dilatation; (4) the Lower Devonian Retiophyllum Pocta (1902, p. 180) of Bohemia and (5) the Middle Devonian Barrandeophyllum Pocta of Bohemia, with which Retiophyllum is probably synonymous; (6) Diphyphyllum symmetricum Frech (1886, p. 95) from the Lower Givetian of Germany, which, however, has no minor septa; (7) the Russian Upper Devonian Laccophyllum of Gorsky (1932, p. 8); (8) the German Lower Carboniferous Diphyphyllum irregulare of Kunth (1869, pl. ii, fig. 5); (9) possibly the Russian Lower Carboniferous Permia Stuckenberg (1895, p. 186), although some of the figures suggest the presence of dissepiments and a possible affinity with Aulophyllum Edwards and Haime; and finally (10) the Russian Lower Permian Amplexocarina Sochkina (1928), in which minor septa may or may not be developed. Of these, Laccophyllum, Alleynia, Barrandeophyllum and Permia constituted Grabau's (1928, p. 82) family Laccophyllidae; as Laccophyllum is in all probability synonymous with Syringaxon, I have given the earlier name of the genus to the family.

The Silurian and some of the Devonian forms have dilated tissue, but in the later Devonian and Carboniferous forms the plates are usually moderately thin. Many other forms with a tabulate aulos have a dissepimentarium, e.g., the Devonian Eridophyllum and the Carboniferous Aulina, and the possibility that these have arisen from the Laccophyllidae should be kept in mind.

Genus BARRANDEOPHYLLUM Poeta.

Barrandeophyllum Pocta, 1902, p. 190.

? Retiophyllum Poeta, 1902, p. 180; monotype, Retiophyllum mirum Poeta id., pl. 108, fig. 6; F_2 (Lower Devonian) Koneprus, Bohemia.

Genotype (by monotypy): $Barrandeophyllum\ perplexum$ Pocta, 1902, p. 192, textfigs. 9, 10, pl. 108, figs. 4, 5, 7, 13, 19; G_1 (Couvinian), Hluboçep, Bohemia.

Diagnosis: Simple Rugose corals with the axial ends of the major septa uniting at a tabulate aulos; with inclined tabulae between the aulos and the outer wall; typically with contratingent minor septa; with unthickened tissue.

Remarks: Pocta was uncertain of the arrangement of the axial ends of the septa in Retiophyllum, but from his figure, the genotype seems to be Barrandeophyllum. B. perplexum has contratingent minor septa; but I am here including in the genus two species which appear to be without minor septa. These are the German Lower Givetian Diphyphyllum symmetricum Frech and a smaller form from the Rough Range Series of Western Australia.

Barrandeophyllum rubrum sp. nov.

(Plate I., figs. 1 and 2.)

Diphyphyllum sp. cf. symmetricum Frech; Wade, 1938, p. 96, from preliminary determination by Hill.

Holotype: A 408a, Wade Collection, University of Western Australia. Rough Range Series, south-eastern entrance of Mountain Home Spring Valley, Kimberley District, Western Australia. Upper Givetian or Lower Frasnian.

Diagnosis: Barrandeophyllum without minor septa, and with 18 major septa at a diameter of 6 mm.

Description: The corallum is nearly erect or curved, attaining a diameter of 8 mm. at the edge of the calice, which is there 4 mm. deep. Height is probably about 15 mm. The epitheca shows fine growth annulation and very

weak longitudinal ridges. There are 18 thin major septa at a diameter of 6 mm., each proceeding about half-way to the axis, where it meets a thin aulos, which is not always continuous, but is about half the diameter of the corallum. In the holotype one septum, possibly the counter, is slightly swollen at its axial end, but this was not observed in other specimens. The major septa are almost straight, and there are no minor septa. The tabulae in the aulos are complete, horizontal and distant, but irregularly spaced; those between the aulos and the outer wall are complete or incomplete, usually inclined from the aulos down to the outer wall; they do not correspond in position or number with the tabulae inside the aulos.

Remarks: The tissue in topotypes is uniformly thin; but in specimens from A 581, Napier Range, it is somewhat dilated. Also, these latter individuals are smaller and have fewer septa than the topotypes. The species is very close to Barrandeophyllum symmetricum (Frech, 1886, p. 95, pl. vii, figs. 3, 4, 5, 17–22) from the Lower Givetian Crinoid bed of Blankenheim, Germany, the only observable differences being those of size of corallum and number of septa.

Family METRIOPHYLLIDAE.

Type Genus: METRIOPHYLLUM Edwards and Haime.

Diagnosis: Rugose corals without dissepiments, in which all the major septa unite at the axis, the cardinal fossula is on the convex side of the corallum, and a false counter fossula appears; the minor septa are short and the tabulae are distant and steeply domed; the axial end of the counter septum may be swollen.

Range: Upper Couvinian to Permian.

Remarks: The genera here regarded as forming a family were previously discussed (Hill, 1938, p. 25) merely as a morphological group of Zaphrentoid corals. Although the group may be a polyphyletic one, this has not been proved, and convenience of reference is now served by regarding it as a family. Genera are the Middle Devonian Stereolasma Simpson (1900, p. 205) and Lopholasma Simpson (1900, p. 206) of America, and the Middle and Upper Devonian Metriophyllum of Europe and Australia; the European Lower Carboniferous Zaphrentis omaliusi group described by Carruthers (1908, p. 25) which may be the Russian Lower Carboniferous Disophyllum Tolmatchoff (1931, p. 341) and the Scottish Lower Carboniferous Fasciculophyllum Thomson (1883, p. 448); the Moscovian "Densiphylloid Zaphrentis" (Dobrolyubova, 1936, p. 101, fig. 27) from Russia; the Uralian Lopholasma and Lophocarinophyllum Grabau (1922, 1928, p. 147) from China; and the Permian Lopholasma (Soschkina, 1928) from Russia and Malonophyllum Okulitch and Albritton (1937) from Texas, U.S.A.

Fasciculophyllum and Malonophyllum are distinguished by the swollen axial end of the long counter septum; and this suggests that other genera with such a feature may bear some relation to the Metriophyllidae. Such are the Lower Carboniferous Lophophyllum Edwards and Haime (1850, p. lxvi); the Uralian and Permian Sinophyllum Grabau (1928, p. 99); the Pennsylvanian and Permian Lophophyllidium Grabau (1928, p. 98); and the Permian Timorphyllum Gerth (1921, p. 69) and Sochkineophyllum Grabau (1928, p. 75).

Grabau (1928) has discussed most of the genera mentioned above and has given a different interpretation of family relations.

Genus METRIOPHYLLUM Edwards and Haime.

Metriophyllum Edwards and Haime, 1850, p. lxix.

Lopholasma Simpson, 1900, p. 206, figs. 19–21; genotype Streptelasma rectum Hall, 1876, pl. 19 partim, i.e., that called Lopholasma carinatum by Simpson id. Hamilton shales (Givetian) Western New York.

Genotype (by designation): Metriophyllum Bouchardi Edwards and Haime, id., 1851, p. 318, pl. vii., figs. 1, 1a, b, 2, 2a = Cyathomitratum Michelin, 1845, p. 183, pl. xlvii., fig. 7, non Schlotheim, 1820. Frasnian, Ferques, near Boulogne, France.

Diagnosis: Simple Rugosa without dissepiments, in which the major septa unite at the axis, forming a false columella; the cardinal fossula is on the convex side of the corallum and a false counter fossula appears; the tabulae are incomplete, thin and distant, arranged in tall domes; the septa bear horizontal flanges usually with upturned edges.

Range: Upper Couvinian of Germany, Givetian of Germany and America, and Frasnian of France.

Remarks: Lopholasma is indistinguishable from Metriophyllum. horizontal flanges on the sides of the septa are very prominent and in vertical section of the corallum simulate tabulae. M. gracil Schlüter (1884; 1889, pl. ii, figs. 5-8) from the Upper Couvinian of Gerolstein in the Eifel, is a small species 4 to 10 mm. tall and 3 to 4 mm. in diameter, with strongly ridged epitheca, and straight major septa. This form characterises the marl banks; in a dolomitic bed of the same horizon a number of specimens with a smooth epitheca and nearly twice as large are found, which Schlüter (1889, p. 20) suggested might be called M. laeve, if these differences should prove real and not a matter of preservation. *M. carinatum* (Simpson) from the ? Givetian (Hamilton) of Western New York, may be 40 mm. tall and 20 mm. in diameter, and its septa are crowded, up to 32 of each order, the minor being short and often contratingent. M. bouchardi from the Frasnian of Ferques, France, is two or three times as tall and thick as gracile, but has 22 to 24 septa, slightly curved. M. battersbyi Edwards and Haime (1853, p. 222, pl. xlix, fig. 4) from Torquay has dissepiments and is probably not Metriophyllum.

METRIOPHYLLUM sp.

(Plate I, fig. 3.)

Metriophyllumsp. ef. gracile Schlüter ; Wade, 1938, p. 96, from preliminary determination by Hill.

Description: The single slightly oblique section of this form here figured was obtained from a piece of red limestone from locality A 408, South-Eastern entrance to Mountain Home Spring Valley, Rough Range, associated with Barrandeophyllum rubrum. No other section was possible, and no details can be given of external form, size, or longitudinal section. At a diameter of 9 mm. there are 20 major septa alternating with 20 minor septa, all being a little thickened; the major septa proceed almost to the axis, and are then in contact laterally, leaving an axial space, which is, however, occupied by stereoplasm, possible deposited on the surface of a tabula. Each minor septa is about 1 mm. long, and leans on the major septa on its counter side (i.e., it is contratingent), except for those on either side of the counter septum, which have free edges. The cut edges of the horizontal septal carinae appear as thin offset plates from the major septa. The curvature of the thin sections of tabulae indicate that these are distant and steeply domed.

Remarks: The species differs from the Upper Couvinian (and possibly Lower Givetian) gracile, to which it was at first compared in being much larger and in having minor septa. From the Givetian carinatum it differs in having fewer septa; from the Frasnian genotype it is apparently not very different, but as I have neither sections nor good figures of bouchardi I cannot be sure. Having such limited material, I have not thought it advisable to give the form a name. On the whole it would appear to indicate a Givetian or a Frasnian horizon.

TABULATE CORALS.

Genus ALVEOLITES Lamarck.

Alveolites Lamarck, 1801, p. 375.

Genotype: Alveolites suborbicularis Lamarck, 1801, p. 376, Frasnian, Germany.

Range: Silurian and Devonian.

Remarks: The genus has already been discussed in this Journal (Hill, 1936, p. 33, quo vide).

Alveolites suborbicularis Lamarck.

(Plate I., fig. 4.)

Alveolites suborbicularis Lamarck, 1801, p. 376. Upper Devonian (Frasnian), near Düsseldorf, Germany.

Alveolites suborbicularis Lecompte, 1933, pp. 15-25; 1936, p. 6.

Neotype (chosen by Smith, 1933, p. 138): One of the syntypes of Calamopora spongites var. tuberosa Goldfuss, 1828, pl. xxviii., figs. 1a–g; Upper Devonian of Bensberg, near Cologne, in the Goldfuss Collection, Bonn University, i.e., specimen figured loc. cit. 1a–1b.

Diagnosis: Alveolites whose corallites have thick or thin walls, and are semi-lunar or sub-triangular in section; a row of coarse spines may be present on the floor of the corallites, or a number of sporadically distributed small spines.

Description of West Australian specimen B 94a: The specimen is a yellowish fragment 8 cm. x 5 cm. x 2 cm., worn by rain weathering. Grouped layers of corallites due to repeated rejuvenescence of the colony are prominent. The corallites are almost completely reclined, in somewhat undulating layers. They are sub-triangular or semi-lunar in transverse section, and are from 0.75 mm. to 1 mm. along their longest horizontal diameter, and from 0.4 to 0.75 mm. tall. A large septal spine is occasionally visible in the centre of the floor of a corallite; smaller spines are not observed. Pores occur uniserially on the short sides of the corallites, usually at the lower angles; they are about 0.15 mm. in diameter, and a weathered surface shows 9 in a space of 10 mm. The walls of the corallites are fairly thick over most of the sections taken, about 0.5 mm., but those of the basal layer of corallites after a rejuvenescence are much thinner. The tabulae are very thin plates transverse to the length of the corallites, very slightly sagging, about 1 mm. apart.

Remarks: Lecompte (1933) has given an excellent account of the synonymy, morphology, development and range of this species. It is wide-spread in the Frasnian of Belgium and France, particularly in the stage of Rhynchonella cuboides. In Germany and England it occurs in the Givetian and Frasnian; in the Carnic Alps it is reported from the Couvinian and Givetian; in America it is widely distributed. This is the first record in Australia; the specimen is from B 94, 10 chains East of Station K, Rough Range. In the Australian form the tabulae are much more widely spaced than in the types—5 or 6 as against 12 in 5 mm.

Genus THAMNOPORA Steininger.

Thamnopora Steininger, 1831, p. 10; 1834, p. 334.

Genotype: Alveolites cervicornis de Blainville, 1830, p. 370. Middle Devonian, Eifel.

Range: Silurian, Devonian and Permian.

Remarks: The genus has already been discussed in this Journal (Hill, 1937, p. 56, quo vide for references, etc.).

THAMNOPORA DUBIA (de Blainville)*.

Alveolites dubia de Blainville, 1830, p. 370 (= Calamopora polymorpha Goldfuss, 1826, p. 75, pl. 27, fig. 5).

Favosites dubius Lecompte, 1936, p. 54, quo vide for discussion of synonymy.

Holotype: The specimen in the Goldfuss Collection, Bonn University, figures by Goldfuss loc. cit. from Bensberg, near Cologne, Germany. Frasnian.

Diagnosis: Thamnopora with bi- or tri-furcating cylindrical slightly flexuous branches 4 to 6 mm. across; with corallites from 1.5 to 2 mm. in diameter, opening at about 60° from the horizontal, the thickening of the walls increasing distally.

THAMNOPORA ef. DUBIA (de Blainville).

(Plate I., fig. 5.)

Thamnopora polyporatus (sic) Wade, 1938, p. 96, from preliminary determination by Hill. Rough Range Series, Kimberley, W. Aust.

Description: The specimens are in a red earthy limestone, and the corals are broken by small faults of very slight displacement. The branches vary in diameter between 12 mm. and 7 mm.; perhaps they are somewhat flattened, but this could not be clearly ascertained. They are slightly flexuous, and probably dichotomous. The calices are polyfonal, the openings about 1 mm. in diameter; the common wall between two such calical openings is about 1 mm. thick, and has a median groove corresponding to the median dark line seen in thin sections of the wall. The corallites diverge from the axis with a fairly regular curve, the obliquity being about 40° from the horizontal at the opening. In the axial portion of the transverse section, which is about half the diameter of the branch, the corallites vary in diameter between 0.5 and 0.75 mm., the common walls being about 0.15 mm. thick. At their openings the corallites are about 2 mm. in diameter from dark line to dark line, the common walls being about 1 mm. thick. The increase in thickness of the wall is gradual from the axis to the calice. Mural pores are about 0.2 mm. in diameter and about 0.6 mm. apart. Septal spines were The tabulae are fine, distant, and slightly sagging. The fibro-radiate structure of the walls and the growth lamellation at right angles to it are clearly seen.

Remarks: This West Australian specimen from B 92, Trig. Station J, Rough Range, differs from the types in that the branches are somewhat thicker, the obliquity of the corallites is less, as they open at 40° as against 60° from the horizontal, and in the slightly greater thickness attained by the walls at the calices. In these characters it resembles closely "Favosites dubia" of Milne Edwards and Haime, from an unknown locality, figured by Lecompte (1936, pl. x., fig. 2), but unlike this latter has no septal spines. De Blain-

^{*}Unpublished work by Dr. Stanley Smith and Dr. W. D. Lang indicates that this species is a synonym of *Thannopora polyforatus* (Schlotheim, 1820), but pending publication of their evidence, I refer here to the name under which the species was so well figured by Lecompte.

ville's types also have no spines. Lecompte has given admirable descriptions of de Blainville's types and of Edwards and Haime's specimens, but we do not as yet know the range of variability in the species. The types are Frasnian, and I have specimens in the Jones Collection, University of Queensland, from the Frasnian of Boussu, which resemble the Western Australian specimens in all save a slightly greater obliquity of corallite growth. "Dubia" has, however, been recorded from the Couvinian of Torquay.

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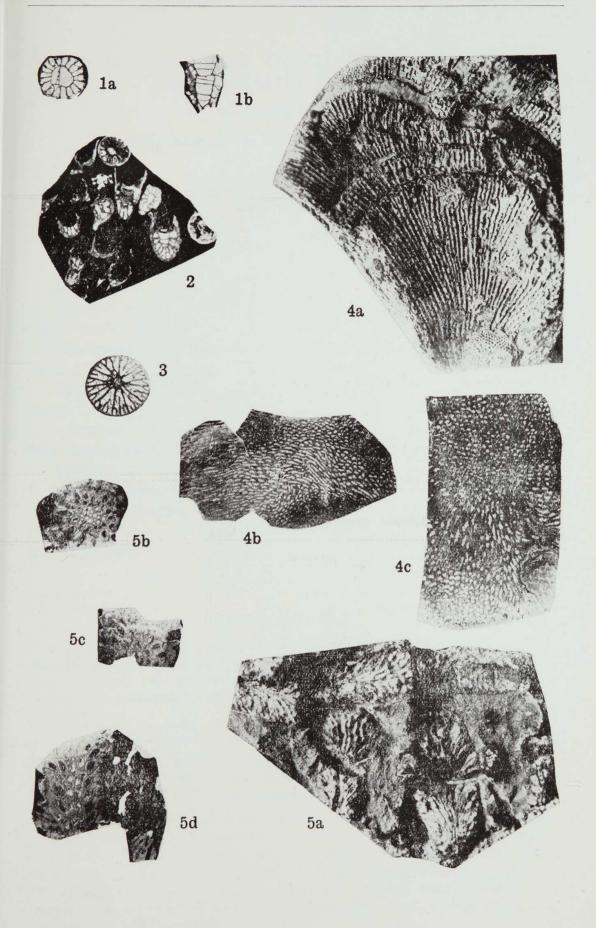
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EXPLANATION TO PLATE.

All specimens are from the Upper Givetian of Lower Frasnian of the Kimberley District, Western Australia, and are from the Wade Collection now at the University of Western Australia.

- Fig. 1.—Barrandeophyllum rubrum sp. nov. A 408a, holotype, South-eastern entrance to Mountain Home Spring Valley, Rough Range; a, transverse section; b, vertical section, x $1\frac{1}{2}$ diameters.
- Fig. 2.—The same. A 581, Napier Range, Kimberley. Oblique section, x $1\frac{1}{2}$ diameters.
- Fig. 3.—Metriophyllum sp. A 408b, South-eastern entrance to Mountain Home Spring Valley, Rough Range; transverse section, x $1\frac{1}{2}$ diameters.
- Fig. 4.—Alveolites suborbicularis Lamarck. B 94, 10 chains East of Trig. Station K, Rough Range; a, external view, x $1\frac{1}{4}$ diameters; b, c, thin sections, x $1\frac{1}{2}$ diameters.
- Fig. 5.—Thamnopora ef. dubia (de Blainville). B 92, Trig. Station J, Rough Range; a, external view, x $\frac{5}{6}$ diameters; b, transverse section; c, d, vertical sections, x $1\frac{1}{2}$ diameters.



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